

House Republican Press Release

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Rep. Boucher Hails Gov. Rell for Aiding White Barn Theatre Preservation



State Rep. Toni Boucher, R-143, today thanked Gov. M. Jodi Rell for providing state funding to acquire the White Barn Theatre and Museum and 18 acres of open space land straddling Norwalk and Westport.

“I am so grateful that the governor and her administration see the value of this wonderful resource for Norwalk and the region,” said Rep. Boucher. “I have worked long and hard with residents of Norwalk and the Norwalk Land Conservation Trust over the past three years to preserve this property as Lucille Lortel had wanted.”

The late Lucille Lortel, a theatre supporter from New York, created a summer series in the former horse barn of her property in 1947.

Today, at a ceremony in Norwalk, Gov. M. Jodi Rell announced a \$450,000 state grant administered through the Department of Environmental Protection. The grant will help to preserve the theatre, museum and 18.4 acres of property. There are 15.5 acres located in Norwalk and 2.5 acres in Westport.

Rep. Boucher added, “Norwalk is one of the few truly beautiful, vital, large cities remaining in our state. The pressure to build must be balanced with the preservation of important pieces of open space property.”

She said, “It cannot be stressed enough that, once lost, precious resources can rarely be regained.”

Rep. Boucher serves the 143rd Assembly District of Wilton and Norwalk in the state House of Representatives.